

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~[[Face]]~~ A face detection apparatus generating an output ~~indicative of the~~ indicating a likelihood of a region ~~test regions of a test an~~ image containing a face, the apparatus comprising:

~~means operable to compare a test for comparing the~~ region with face data ~~indicative of the~~ that indicates a presence of ~~[[a]] the face in such a way as to detect plural and for~~ detecting respective likelihood values ~~indicative of~~ indicating the likelihood of the ~~[[test]]~~ region containing ~~[[a]] the face~~ ~~[[of]] in~~ a group of respective different face sizes; and

~~control means, responsive to metadata associated with the image defining one of a set of predetermined classifications of the image, for modifying at least one of the group and/or~~ and the likelihood values in dependence upon based on a face size or a range of face sizes appropriate to ~~[[the]] at least one classification of that the image, the means for modifying~~ being responsive to metadata associated with the image defining the at least one classification of the image, the image being a part of a video sequence and the at least one classification includes a video program type.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~[[in]] wherein the control means is operable to weight for comparing weighs the likelihood values~~ [[so as]] to enhance the detected likelihood of ~~[[a]] the face~~ ~~[[of]] in~~ a face size appropriate to the at least one classification of ~~[[that]] the~~ image.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the ~~control~~ means ~~for modifying is operable to select~~ selects a subset of the group of different face sizes for ~~detecting the likelihood values~~ testing of the test region, and the subset ~~being is~~ dependent upon ~~[[a]]~~ the face size or the range of face sizes appropriate to the at least one classification of ~~[[that]]~~ the image.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, further comprising:

means for detecting whether ~~the likelihood value indicative of the~~ a greatest one of the likelihood values exceeds a threshold likelihood value.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, ~~in which~~ wherein the ~~comparing~~ means is operable: ~~to derive a set of~~ for comparing derives attributes from respective blocks of the region, ~~compares; to~~ compare the derived attributes with attributes ~~that indicate~~ indicative of the presence of ~~[[a]]~~ the face~~[[;]]~~, and ~~derives to derive~~ a probability of the presence of ~~[[a]]~~ the face by a similarity between the derived attributes and the attributes ~~indicative of~~ that indicate the presence of ~~[[a]]~~ the face.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus according to claim 6, ~~in which~~ wherein the attributes that indicate the presence of the face comprise ~~[[the]]~~ projections of image areas onto one or more image eigenblocks.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Video~~ A video conferencing apparatus, comprising the apparatus according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Surveillance~~ A surveillance apparatus comprising the apparatus according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Display~~ A display apparatus, comprising:
a display screen;
a video camera; and
the apparatus according to ~~any one of the preceding claims; claim 1, wherein~~
the video camera and the ~~face detection~~ apparatus ~~being~~ are arranged with respect ~~[[ot]]~~ to the display screen ~~[[so as]]~~ to detect faces ~~of those~~ looking at the display screen.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of face detection ~~apparatus~~ for generating an output ~~indicative of the~~ indicating a likelihood of ~~test regions~~ a region of ~~a test~~ an image containing a face, the method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

comparing ~~a test~~ the region with face data ~~indicative of the~~ that indicates a presence of ~~[[a]]~~ the face ~~in such a way as to detect plural respective likelihood value indicative of values~~

indicating the likelihood of the [[test]] region containing [[a]] the face [[of]] in a group of
respective different face sizes; and

modifying at least one of the group and the likelihood values based on a face size or a
range of face sizes appropriate to at least one classification of the image, in response to
metadata associated with the image defining that defines the at least one of a set of
predetermined classifications classification of the image, modifying the group and/or the
likelihood values in dependence upon a face size or range of face sizes appropriate to the
classification of that wherein the image is part of a video sequence and the at least one
classification includes a video program type.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium, according to claim 13, the
medium being a storage medium including computer executable instructions, wherein the
instructions when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method
comprising:

comparing a region with face data that indicates a presence of a face to detect
likelihood values indicating a likelihood of the region containing the face in a group of
respective different face sizes; and

modifying at least one of the group and the likelihood values based on a face size or a
range of face sizes appropriate to at least one classification of an image, in response to
metadata associated with the image that defines the at least one classification of the image,

wherein the image is part of a video sequence and the at least one classification includes a video program type.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) ~~[[Face]]~~ A face detection apparatus generating an output ~~indicative of the~~ indicating a likelihood of ~~test regions~~ a region of ~~a test~~ an image containing a face, the apparatus comprising:

a comparator configured to compare ~~a test~~ the region with face data ~~indicative of the~~ that indicates a presence of ~~[[a]]~~ the face ~~in such a way as~~ and to detect ~~plural~~ respective likelihood values ~~indicative of~~ indicating the likelihood of the ~~[[test]]~~ region containing ~~[[a]]~~ the face ~~[[of]]~~ in a group of respective different face sizes; and

a controller, ~~responsive to metadata associated with the image defining one of a set of predetermined classifications of the image,~~ configured to modify at least one of the group ~~and/or~~ and the likelihood values ~~in dependence upon~~ based on a face size or a range of face sizes appropriate to ~~[[the]]~~ at least one classification of ~~[[that]]~~ the image, the controller is responsive to metadata associated with the image that define the at least one classification of the image, the image being part of a video sequence and the at least one classification includes a video program type.